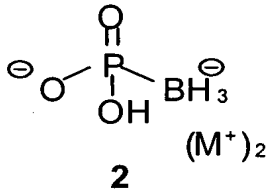
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) A method for the preparation of an inorganic boranophosphate salt ~~according to claim 12,~~ of the general formula **2**:



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wherein M is a counterion, comprising reacting tris(trimethylsilyl)-phosphite with borane-dimethylsulfide complex of the formula $BH_3 \cdot SMe_2$, in dry acetonitrile under inert gas, and treating the formed intermediate with the suitable base MOH in water or methanol, thus obtaining the desired salt.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein said base is methanolic ammonia or an aqueous NH_4OH solution, thus resulting in the ammonium salt, wherein M is NH_4^+.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein said base is tributylamine, Bu_3N, in methanol, thus resulting in the tributylammonium salt, wherein M is Bu_3NH^+.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, comprising treating the intermediate with triethylammonium bicarbonate buffer, thus resulting in the Et_3NH^+ salt.

22. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein the counterion M is ammonium ($NH4^+$) or an inorganic cation derived from an alkali, alkaline earth or transition metal.

23. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the counterion M is Na^+, K^+, Li^+, Ca^{++}, Mg^{++}, Ni^{++}, Cu^{++}, Fe^{++}, Fe^{+++}, Co^{++}, Zn^{++}, Pd^{++}, or Ag^+.

24. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein the counterion M is an organic cation derived from an amine of the formula R_3NH^+, wherein R is C_1-C_{18}, alkyl, phenyl, heteroaryl or two of the Rs together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 3-7 membered ring optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, S and O.

25. (New) The method according to claim 24, wherein each R is C_1-C_6 alkyl, optionally ethyl, propyl or butyl.